

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kaczeus et al. (US-6,154,360). Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chee et al. (US-6,324,054). Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaczeus et al.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters "20" and "30" have both been used to designate the hard disk cartridge housing.

Applicant has amended Figures 1 and 2, as illustrated on the attached formal drawings, accompanied by a LETTER TO THE OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON. Figures 1 and 2 were amended to label the universal hard disk cartridge with the reference number "30" and the universal hard disk cartridge housing with the reference number "20". No "new matter" has been added to the original disclosure by the amendments to these figures. It is believed that the foregoing proposed amendments obviate the outstanding objections to the drawings. Approval of the proposed drawing changes and entry of the formal drawings is respectfully requested.

New Claims

By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 1-7 and has added new claims 8-11 to this application. It is believed that the new claims specifically set forth each element of Applicant's invention in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, and define subject matter that is patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

The new claims recite a universal hard disk cartridge (30) for inserting a removable hard drive (40) and connecting to a I/O port of a personal computer by an interface cable (50) comprising: a universal hard disk cartridge housing (20); and a hard disk connecting board (10) connected to the universal hard disk cartridge

housing such that a portion of the hard disk connecting board extends out of a first side of the universal hard disk cartridge housing, the hard disk connecting board having: a female IDE connector configured to be removably connected to a male IDE connector (42) of the hard drive; a MC-36 female connector (12) having a portion extending outwardly of a second side of the universal hard disk cartridge housing, and configured to be removably connected to a MC-36 male connector of the interface cable; a power input jack (13); and a printed circuit board (14), the female IDE connector, the MC-36 female connector and the power input jack being connected to the circuit board.

The cited reference to Kaczeus discloses a high impact resistant data storage subsystem having a chassis (100), an upper pad (105), a middle pad (110), a disk drive (115) positioned within the middle pad, a connector (130) connecting the disk drive and a printed circuit board (140), and a cable connector (145) connected between the printed circuit board and a host.

Kaczeus et al. teaches the printed circuit board having a connector (130) to connect the printed circuit board to the disk drive, but does not teach the connector being an IDE connector. Further, the printed circuit board has a connector (145) for connecting a cable to the printed circuit board, but the connector is not taught to be an MC-36 connector. Additionally, Kaczeus et al. does not teach the universal hard disk cartridge housing having an ejection button, or having a length between 50% and 100% of the length of the printed circuit board. Further, Kaczeus et al. teaches the hard disk being positioned within the middle pad, but does not teach the hard disk connecting board and a hard drive being slidably fit into an interior of the universal hard disk cartridge housing.

It is axiomatic in U.S. patent law that, in order for a reference to anticipate a claimed structure, it must clearly disclose each and every feature of the claimed structure. Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that Kaczeus et al. does not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's new claims and, therefore, could not possibly anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Absent a specific showing of these features, Kaczeus et al. cannot be said to anticipate any of Applicant's new claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is further submitted that Kaczeus does not disclose, or suggest a modification of the specifically disclosed structure that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at Applicant's claimed structure. Thus, it is not believed that Kaczeus et al. renders obvious any of Applicant's new claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

The cited reference to Chee et al. discloses a wrap around shock absorber for disk drives including a disk drive (200), a printed circuit board (250), and a body (606). The printed circuit board is connected to the disk drive via screws (252). The assembled disk drive and printed circuit board are inserted into an opening (640) in the body (606).

Chee et al. teaches the combination of a disk drive connected to a printed circuit board, and the combination being inserted into the body, whereas in the present invention the hard disk can be removed from the universal hard disk cartridge housing without removing the hard disk connecting board. Chee et al. teaches the connector assembly having a plurality of connectors, but does not teach a female IDE connector removably connected to a male IDE connector of the hard drive, or an MC-36 female connector removably connected to an MC-36 male connector of the interface cable. Further, Chee et al. does not teach the universal hard disk cartridge housing having an ejection button, the universal hard disk cartridge housing having a length between 50% and 100% of the length of the printed circuit board, nor does not teach the hard disk connecting board and a hard drive being slidably fit into the interior of the universal hard disk cartridge housing.

Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that Chee et al. does not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's new claims and, therefore, could not possibly anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Absent a specific showing of these features, Chee et al. cannot be said to anticipate any of Applicant's new claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

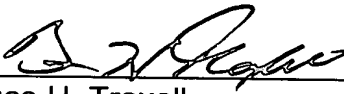
Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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